

Washington High School Patrons of the Performing Arts Meeting Minutes  
September 1, 2015

Heidi Becker called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm on Sept. 1, 2015 in the Band room at Washington High School.

MINUTES: Darcy Caraway motioned to approve the minutes from the May meeting, Gwen Engen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT & BUDGET: Teresa Wake presented the treasurers report. The closing balance for the last fiscal year (June 30, 2015) was \$18,574. The new fiscal year started on July 1, 2015.

Dr Plagman gave a short history on the growth of PPA since 1981. Currently, approximately \$70,000 is just to "keep us in business". Larger expenses:

- Choir (choreographers, and clinicians for All State and competitions),
- Band (marching band assistants and clinicians for All State and competitions)
- Orchestra (small, but gives orchestra whatever they ask)
- Free/Reduced: fees are covered by PPA

Last year there was an extra big expense of the trailer – which was absolutely necessary, especially for vocal and band. He is enormously grateful for PPA's help. In fact, PPA has contributed more than WAC for several years. "PPA makes it happen."

MEMBERSHIP: Gwen Engen said PPA is off to a good start with 55 member families and \$9,550 in paid memberships. (Memberships, BIFAS and MoShow are biggest fundraisers.)

PROGRAM: Mr. Miller introduced the Drum Line to perform. Currently the band is focused on drum line/ marching band. There are approximately 140 people on the field. Marching Band performs at football games and competitions will start in 3 or 4 weeks through 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October. Doing well so far, and Mr. Miller encouraged everyone to come see the band perform. As WHS is on semester, there will be changes mid-semester when marching band ends. The large divider wall will be pulled out so two bands can practice at the same time.

Mr. Nagel said All State preparations have begun and they have started selecting students to audition (max 30 kids). Mr. Miller and Mr. Nagel gave a big thank you to PPA as they couldn't do it without PPA's help. They hire (the best) help for marching band and clinicians.

FRANKFURTER: Suzie Coleman reported on Frankfurter and will chair it again this year. (She has chaired for 6 year – and will do 2 more.) Frankfurter is more a celebration than fundraiser. It raised \$1,715 last year.

TCR RECAP: Heidi Becker reported on TCR and Chorus Line sponsorship. TCR offered BOGO to boost ticket sales. PPA was not held accountable for the free tickets. \$3,300 in profit – very good considering we don't do much! TCR may change format for next year: sponsor a run (not an individual show.) Easy way for new parents to get involved!

NEW BUSINESS: New Trailer. (Old one was a hazard). Would like to get it decal'd (WHS, Performing Arts – school colors) and asked PPA to help out. Heidi Becker has a great contact and can ask them for quote and eventually to do the work. JaneAnne Parker motioned that PPA cover the expense up to \$5000, Suzie Coleman seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr Nagel would like PPA to consider matching band funds for a new timpani set. The band has one working set (50 years old) and with double band rehearsal (because of semesters), could really use a second set. District gives band \$6,000 per year. A new set is \$10 - \$12,000. He

asked PPA to put it on the radar to consider matching Bands expense (up to \$6000). Mr Nagel will get more information regarding price and district purchase restrictions.

BIFAS: Heidi Becker is heading BIFAS with Sherry Sealy. They, with team, are soliciting from a list of 290 companies with a BIG goal of \$20,000. They already have \$6,400 in merchandise! Please help: Next donation collection date is Sept. 14 or Sponsoring a performing group. Questions? contact Heidi!

PERFORMER OF THE MONTH: Need someone to head this effort (monthly contact with directors, contact student, write up and put in show case.) Talk to Jenny Bosking for more information. (Angie Arnold-Meyer stepped up to help following the meeting.)

OPEN FLOOR: Lisa Butler is back (with a freshman in orchestra). She is honored to serve as the "Drama-mama" as she knows what a great program WHS has and all it did for her older son, Ian. First show this year is Rumors in the Little Theatre. Lisa will send out sign-up genius to help with show and ticket sales. WHSdrama@gmail.com.

Bill Lammers followed up on portable stage discussion from last spring. WHS's stage is 17 years old – and shows it. New stage quotes are from \$21,000 (bad product for WHS) to \$49,000. The middle reasonable quotes are in the \$32-35,000 range. Wants this potential purchase on the table as if purchase decision is made – it will take advance notice for fundraising. Stage used for assemblies and sports too – so PTA and WAC should be asked if they can be involved – for a school wide fundraiser. District has a 40 x 42 stage we can use at not cost – but need to give advance notice and get on the calendar. (Will use district stage for MoShow.) WHS has rented stage out in past (Xavier) – but nervous about safety considering the condition.

Dawn Stastny is chairing MoShow and announced that they have chairs to fill.

Jodie Brinkmann won the drawing for a \$25 Panera gift card!

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned.